

Grange-over-Sands
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

1904.

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS :

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Grange-over-Sands Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS,

February 27th, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

It is my pleasure to present to you my Annual Report of the health and sanitary condition of your district during the past year.

Inspection of the District.—Your district is kept under careful supervision, being subject to systematic inspection, and in cases where infectious disease or any sanitary defect is reported, special inspections are made.

Water Supply.—The water supply has been invariably of excellent quality, the pressure and quantity being usually sufficient. An extension of the three inch main in Hampsfell Road has been laid to supply two houses, one in the Grange district and the other in the district of the Ulverston Rural Council. The weather during the past summer and winter has been unusually dry, the rainfall being much below the average, in consequence of this, the level of water in the reservoir is much lower than it has been for some years at this time of the year, and we must trust that before the summer the supply may be replenished.

New Streets.—The making up of Rockland Road, which was commenced last year, has been completed, and the sewer, which was found to be in a defective state, thoroughly repaired. Kentsford Road, Kents Bank: notices have been issued for the metalling, kerbing, and channelling of this road, and when the work is completed a great improvement will be effected in this part of the district, and the comfort of the inhabitants will be enhanced thereby.

Sewerage and Drainage. — The new Sewerage scheme has been completed, and two Adams' Patent Automatic Sewage Lifts installed, and although at first giving rise to considerable trouble, they are now working satisfactorily. All the old sewage outlets on the shore at Grange have been closed, and the sewage diverted to the new outfall near Berner's Close. An extension of the sewer in Lindale Road was made during the year so as to connect up the drainage of the Convalescent Home to the new sewerage system. The drainage of the Hazelwood Hydro. has also been connected to the new sewers. These two institutions previously drained indirectly on to the Marsh, and frequent complaints were made as to nuisances arising therefrom.

Under an arrangement between this Council, the Ulverston Rural Council, and the adjoining landowner, the sewer in Kirkhead Road, Kents Bank, was extended to receive the drainage of of a new house erected in the Ulverston Rural District. This avoided the necessity of a cesspool being constructed which, in course of time, would most probably have become a nuisance.

The cesspool in the Commercial Hotel garden, used by the Council under an agreement with the owners of the property, was closed during the year, and the drainage of the Hotel and three shops in Main Street diverted into the new sewerage system.

The drainage of two houses in Cart Lane and nine houses in Grange has been connected to the new sewers, and the cesspools which formerly received the sewage have been closed.

There are still several houses which drain into cesspools, but arrangements are in hand for their re-drainage and connection to the sewers.

The outside privies and ashpits to six houses in Eggerslack Terrace have been done away with, and the internal w.c's put into a more satisfactory condition. Many houses have had minor improvements made to their drainage and sanitary fitments during the year.

A cottage in Cart Lane was certified during the year to be unfit for human habitation, and the owner is now carrying out alterations with a view of putting it into such a state as to allow of its again being occupied.

Slaughter Houses. — There is only one licensed slaughter house in the town and this is kept in moderate order. It will be remembered that in my last annual report I mentioned that there was an unlicensed building which was regularly used for slaughtering purposes. Proceedings were taken against the occupier of this and a penalty inflicted. The use of the building for slaughtering purposes has been discontinued.

Factories and Workshops' Act.—The factories and workshops in your district have been inspected and generally they are found to be kept in good order. The bake-houses, six in number, are in good order.

Removal of House Refuse.—This work is carried out by the Council, and in a satisfactory manner, accumulations of house refuse being as far as possible avoided. Upwards of 40 houses are now supplied with galvanized ash bins, and where this is the case scavenging is greatly facilitated. Houses thus provided are visited weekly, and the contents of the bins removed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Assessable Value (General District Rate), 1903—£15,924 3s. 9d.				
„	„	„	„	„
1904—£16,109 3s. 9d.				
Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	1903—369
„	„
1904—370				
Area of District	...	...	...	1,508 acres.
Population (enumerated 1901)	...	...	...	1,993
„	(estimated 1904)	...	...	1,993

Population.—It will be observed from the above that the population for the year 1904 is estimated as being the same as when enumerated in 1901. I think the variations are so slight between one census and another as to scarcely disturb the correctness of the following statistical calculations.

Births.—In the year 1904 there were registered in the district 16 births, giving a birth-rate of 8·0 per 1000; in the year 1903 there were 26 births, the birth-rate then being 13·0 per 1000; in 1902 there were 21 births, with a birth-rate of 10·5 per 1000, so that it will be observed that the birth-rate has fallen rapidly.

	1904.	1903.	1902.
In the first quarter of the year there were	4	3	5
„ second „ „ ...	6	4	3
„ third „ „ ...	3	9	2
„ fourth „ „ ...	3	10	11
	—	—	—
Totals ...	16	26	21

There were 7 male children born and 9 females.

Deaths.—During the year there have been 19 deaths recorded, the death-rate being 9·5 per 1000; in the year 1903 there were 24 deaths, the death-rate being 11·0 per 1000; of these five were non-residents in your district. During the year that is just past, besides the 19 deaths of residents recorded, there have been two deaths in visitors to your district.

Causes of Death.—

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	Totals.
Phthisis ...	—	2	7	6	15
Cancer ...	—	4	1	3	8
Influenza ...	2	—	—	—	2
Heart Disease ...	3	2	3	2	10
Bronchitis ...	5	—	—	1	6
Pleurisy ...	—	—	—	1	1
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	1	1
Accident ...	—	—	—	1	1
Premature Birth	—	1	1	—	2
Alcoholism ...	1	—	1	—	2
Pneumonia ...	—	3	2	—	5
Tuberculosis ...	—	1	—	—	1
All other causes...	8	11	7	8	34
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	19	24	22	23	88
	—	—	—	—	—

There have been 11 deaths in males and 8 in females.

1904.

In the first quarter of the year there were	...	6 deaths.
„ second	„	4 „
„ third	„	3 „
„ fourth	„	6 „
		—
Total	...	19

Infantile and Senile Deaths.—In infants under one year of age there were 2 deaths, the infantile death-rate being equal to 125·0 per 1000 births; in 1903 there were 3 deaths at the same age period, the infantile death-rate being then equal to 115·3 per 1000 births.

In persons over 65 years of age there have been 10 deaths as compared with 9 in 1903.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs. — The deaths from diseases which are included under this heading have numbered 5, equal to 26.3 per cent of the deaths from all causes ; in 1903 2 deaths were furnished by diseases taken under this heading, the death-rate per cent. being 9.0.

Phthisis.—There have been no deaths from Phthisis in residents in your district, although two deaths from the disease have arisen in visitors.

Zymotic Deaths.—For the third successive year I am able to report a complete absence of deaths from the diseases scheduled under this class, and commonly called “fevers.”

Notification of Infectious Diseases. — The immunity of Grange from visits of the infectious diseases has been somewhat broken during the past year, as there were 6 cases of scarlet fever reported. The first outbreak occurred in February in a girl who was attending the Higher Grade School at Ulverston, and I have no doubt the disease was contracted there. Unfortunately the sufferer attended a children’s party prior to the nature of the disease being discovered, and as the result of this two other children were attacked, and it looked as though we might have an epidemic outbreak, but by careful isolation and disinfection this was avoided. The next case was reported in March, and was a child of a visitor who, no doubt, had contracted the infection before coming to Grange. In November another case was reported, the disease having attacked a young man who was an apprentice in the town ; in this instance, again, I think it almost certain that the disease was contracted outside the district.

Considering the fact that scarlet fever was very prevalent throughout the year in all the district surrounding Grange, I think we may congratulate ourselves upon the comparative

freedom from attack, nevertheless, the slight incidence of the disease, brought to mind the entire absence of any efficient means of isolation.

I give below in tabular form the notifications for the past seven years.

		Typhoid Fever	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Erysipe- las	Puer- peral Fever	Diph- theria	Totals
1898	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1899	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1900	...	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
1901	...	2	0	5	0	0	0	7
1902	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1903	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1904	...	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Totals	...	3	0	11	0	0	2	16

Measles.—In the month of April Measles appeared amongst the children attending the National Schools, and spread to such an extent as to necessitate the closure of the schools for a fortnight.

In conclusion, I have to thank your Surveyor for his valuable assistance at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON,

L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Lond.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BRIGHT SUNSHINE RECORD,

Taken at Charney Hall, Grange-over-Sands, 300 feet above sea-level, on Jordan's Photographic Recorder.

		Total in 1904. H. M.		Sunless Days in 1904.		Av. for 12 years H. M.
January	...	59·08	...	9	...	52·32
February	...	56·20	...	8	...	72·52
March	...	110·55	...	9	...	128·53
April	...	179·37	...	1	...	184·40
May	...	157·57	...	4	...	217·30
June	..	242·34	...	1	...	218·56
July	...	210·20	...	3	...	201·28
August	...	180·43	...	2	...	173·25
September	...	169·01	...	1	...	146·38
October	...	117·05	...	3	...	111·22
November	...	66·22	...	7	...	70·01
December	...	61·17	...	9	...	50·49
Totals	...	1611·19	...	57	...	1629·06

The year 1902 was notable for having the smallest Sunshine total yet registered, 1415 hours, coupled with a very small Rainfall; and the year 1901 provides the best record with 1749 hours. The best weeks of bright sunshine recorded in the year were

		H. M.		Average per day. H. M.
April 15th to 21st	...	59·33	...	8·30
May 14th to 20th	...	62·25	...	8·55
June 3rd to 9th	...	86·50	...	12·24
June 26th to July 3rd	...	78·00	...	11·09
July 7th to July 13th	...	84·13	...	12·02
August 2nd to 8th	...	55·05	...	7·52
Sept. 17th to 23rd	...	53·50	...	7·41

RAINFALL RECORD.

I am indebted for the following to R. Parkinson, Esq.,
Yewbarrow House, Grange-over-Sands :—

	Inches.				Days on which rain fell.			
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
January	2·55	3·29	4·64	5·51	17	14	16	20
February	0·60	1·40	3·64	3·53	4	7	17	17
March	3·02	2·66	3·99	3·08	11	22	23	15
April	2·93	1·62	1·61	4·31	13	11	12	19
May	1·46	2·85	5·24	2·46	7	20	21	14
June	2·30	1·39	2·30	2·13	13	11	9	10
July	1·39	4·27	4·98	2·41	12	18	15	14
August	4·53	4·07	8·28	3·91	18	14	26	19
September	1·91	2·25	8·46	2·78	13	12	18	12
October	4·69	4·27	9·38	4·38	19	19	29	14
November	5·72	4·34	4·78	4·50	11	20	22	15
December	5·15	3·79	3·83	6·18	16	14	16	19
Total	36·25	36·20	61·13	45·18	154	182	224	188



